"This and the foregoing species are described from a French work now in the course of publication, by the Count de Castelneau."

Sp. 25. Eu. TRIVITTATA, Perty.

Long. lin. 5 ; Lat. lin. $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Subtùs testaceo-metallica, thorace viridi, margine striâque mediâ flavis, elytris testaceo-viridibus.

Statura omnino E. Frischii, *sed satis minor. Subtùs testacea, metallico-nitida, abdomine obscuriore. Caput æneum, subtilissimè punctulatum, clypeo reflexo. Thorax viridi-æneus, nitidus, margine laterali lato, vittâque mediâ flavis. Scutellum viridi-æneum, politum. Elytra longitudinaliter punctulata, testaceo-viridia. Antennæ brunneæ. Pedes metallico-testacei.*

Hab. in Javâ.

In Museo Dom. Perty.

Sp. 26. Eu. SPLENDENS. Schonherr.

Suprà glabra, viridi-orichalcea, nitidissima, thorace elytrorumque dorso subtiliter parce punctulatis, clypeo reflexo integerrimo.

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"It is probable that the above species is a *Mimela*. It is considered by Professor Perty to be an *Euchlora*. I have added Schonherr's short Latin description; for more ample details consult the Appendix to Schonherr's 'Synonymia Insectorum,' tom. i, part 3, page 110."

Besides the above twenty-six species of *Euchlora*, there are several other insects which have been comprehended under that name; for instance, *E. Dalmanni* of Schonherr, and *Chrysea* of Kollar, both of which are true *Mimelæ*, and allied to *M. fastuosa*, Fab.; and to these may be added various species of *Anomala*, recorded by Fabricius, De Jean, and others. The latter writer, in his last catalogue of 1837, mentions the names of *E. piligera*, *Japonica*, *chalcites*: as he, however, confounds *Mimela* with *Euchlora*, little reliance can be placed on his authority; they are, moreover, manuscript names, and no names ought to be adopted without published descriptions. I may add, that in the Dutch and other collections, about six others have fallen under my notice, making in all about thirty species; which number no doubt will be considerably increased the more we become acquainted with the Entomology of Oriental India.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

Dec. 16.—Sir Thomas M. Brisbane, Bart. President, in the Chair.

The first paper of the evening was an account of experiments on the development and growth of Salmon, from the exclusion of the ovum to the age of two years. By Mr. Shaw, Drumlanrig. This communication formed the sequel of a former one read to the Society in December 1837, and continued the account of Mr. Shaw's expe-

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riments during the intervening period. These valuable observations merit a more ample detail in our pages; meanwhile, however, we supply but a few hasty hints.

In some prefatory remarks, Mr. Shaw met an objection to the inferences from his published investigations, proceeding from respectable authority, and which resolved itself into considerations connected with the small size and artificiality of his experimental ponds. Mr. Shaw repelled this by stating that the ponds were made the channel of a copious stream; that the body of running water they contained was very considerable; that the supply of the insects, &c. which constituted the food of the young fish was abundant; and that these little creatures were in as good condition as their congeners in the neighbouring river.

Mr. Shaw's former observations led to the conclusion that the Parr is nothing else than the proper fry of the regular salmon. In his former paper, his experiment was carried thus far:—salmon engaged in the process of reproduction were caught in a net; a particular spot of the running stream was selected; from this spot a channel was formed which communicated with a small pool, fit to become a temporary spawning bed; into this selected spot the adult female salmon was introduced; by gentle pressure on her sides the roe was made to flow freely from her body; this swam down the artificial channel, and was deposited in the temporary bed. Precisely the process was repeated with the adult male, whose milt followed the same course, and settled in the same pool. Portions of the ova thus impregnated were removed into the experimental pond No. 1, which, as formerly explained, was quite separate from the river, and isolated from all accidental contamination: these were carefully watched and found to become genuine parr.

Strong additional circumstances have occurred within the last two years, which have greatly confirmed the inference which naturally flows from the above occurrence. One of these is connected with the subsequent history of the little fish alluded to as placed in pond No. 1. The brood has been watched, and Mr. S. has found that a very few at the close of the first year, and the whole before the end of the second, exchanged their well-known primary river livery of parr, for the silvery migratory coat of the young salmon. With this change in appearance, a great change in their habits occurred: the so-called parr in the pond were solitary and quiet, and if a neighbour invaded their habitual retreat, he was speedily expelled from the forbidden ground. On assuming the migratory dress, the habits of the whole family became much more active, they freely associated

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together, and seemed restlessly disposed to escape from the limits of their confinement.

Another still more confirmatory circumstance is the following. It had long been noticed that the young parr of the second year was a not less constant attendant upon the adult female salmon when depositing her spawn than was her own mate, the milt flowing abundantly from his body, and for no other apparent purpose than the impregnation of the salmon's roe,—no female parr in similar circumstances ever being detected. This fact led Mr. Shaw to the inference, that however different the age of these two fish, yet the union could arise from nothing but identity of species; and he therefore subjected to precisely the same experiments as those above described, the roe of the adult female salmon, and the milt of the tiny parr. Portions of the spawn thus treated were put into the artificial pond No. 2. It proved to be impregnated; the produce during the first year having all the appearance of true parr: toward the end of the second year they assumed their silvery hue, and in fact the young fish in pond No. 2, underwent precisely the same changes as those of No. 1. Nor was this a hybrid race; for one of these of the second year was again made the subject of experiment with the adult female salmon, his milt being brought into contact with her roe, and this new progeny appeared identical with those already noticed. Specimens were exhibited to the Society of the parent adult salmon, male and female, and of some of the young of the ponds, killed when they had the regular markings of the parr, and afterwards when they had assumed the migratory dress of the young salmon.

In the conversation which followed, Professor Christison stated that, along with Mr. Shaw, he had personally examined and could confirm the accuracy of every one of the author's statements, both in the previous communication and the present. Mr. James Wilson likewise offered some remarks, insisting particularly upon the fact that the specimens before the Society demonstrated that these fish had, at one period of their existence, all the genuine characters of true parr, and indisputably were the parr of the naturalist and the angler, and were as certainly at a subsequent period transformed into the young salmon; and Professor Traill closed the discussion by avowing, that although from some anatomical details there had long existed in his mind difficulties in the way of arriving at the same conclusion with the author, yet he could not withstand the evidence he had just heard; that he was a convert to Mr. Shaw's opinion, and that he considered his communication as one of the

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most important contributions that had of late years been made to Natural History, both in a scientific and commercial point of view.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

This Society met on the evening of the 14th November, in the Royal Institution.—Dr. R. K. Greville in the Chair.

A letter from the Marquis of Normanby was read, stating that the Diploma of the Society had been laid before the Queen, and that the same had been very graciously received by Her Majesty. A letter was also read from Baron Werther, inclosing a communication from the King of Prussia, in which His Majesty was graciously pleased to acknowledge the receipt of the Society's Diploma, transmitted on the occasion of His Majesty's election as an honorary member.

An account of botanical excursions made from Edinburgh in the autumn of 1839, was read by Professor Graham.

Mr. Forbes read a notice of excursions in the neighbourhood of Trieste*, in which he gave a sketch of the Triestine territory, a country exceedingly rich in rare and curious plants. The excursions described were four:—1st, the immediate neighbourhood of the town; 2nd, the salt marshes of Zaule, and the neighbouring hills of Istria; 3rd, the Monte Spaccato and the wood of Lipizza, on the singular calcareous plain of the Karst; and 4th, Contobello on the sea coast.

Dr. Greville laid on the table a series of specimens of *Quercus robur*, exhibiting an extraordinary range of form. From the singular variation exhibited by these specimens in the shape and texture of the leaves, and in the length of the peduncles, Dr. Greville was of opinion that there is but one species of oak indigenous in Britain.

ROYAL PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

Of the communications read this Session to the Physical Society, we notice the following:—Edward Forbes, Esq. exhibited drawings and diagrams of the various genera of *Ciliograde Medusæ* inhabiting the seas of Britain, with comments on their structure and habits. He gave an account of two new species of *Alcinæ*—a genus observed this summer, for the first time, in the northern hemisphere; also, of a new *Beroe*, discovered near the Isle of May; and concluded with some interesting observations on the structure and use of cilia, which naturalists have generally supposed are for motion, but which Mr. Forbes showed could not be so.

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